



US Army Corps  
of Engineers

Sacramento District  
1325 J Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814-2922

# Public Notice

Public Notice Number: 200275386

Date: September 10, 2002

Comments Due: September 30, 2002

In reply, please refer to the Public Notice Number

## TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

**SUBJECT:** Application for a Department of the Army permit under authority of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and for water quality certification under Section 401 of the CWA to place fill into waters of the United States for the purpose of a boat ramp extension at Rifle Gap State Park, as shown in the attached drawings.

**APPLICANT:** State of Colorado  
Colorado State Parks  
Attention: Mr. Paul Lans  
Recreation Rehabilitation Program  
Post Office Box 56, 361 32 Road  
Clifton, Colorado 81520

**LOCATION:** The project site is located at the Rifle Gap State Park and Reservoir on State Highway 325, approximately 6 miles north of Rifle, Colorado (reference Vicinity Map, sheet 1 of 4) within Section 7, Township 5 South, Range 92 West, Garfield County, Colorado.

**PURPOSE:** To extend the existing concrete boat ramp at Rifle Gap Reservoir to provide for additional user access and accommodate increased user traffic.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The project proponent proposes to excavate an existing gravel parking lot, adjacent to an existing boat ramp at Rifle Gap Reservoir, approximately 19 inches deep. The surface area of excavation will be 30 feet by 250 feet, with approximately half of this excavation area below the normal high water elevation (spillway crest elevation) of Rifle Gap Reservoir.

The excavated area will be refilled with a 12 inch gravel base layer and topped with a 7 inch concrete paving. The estimated fill volume of gravel base is 222 cubic yards with a concrete volume equal to 111 cubic yards. Excavation dredge material will be removed by truck to an upland site for other construction activities.

**ALTERNATIVES:** The applicant identified the only alternative as no action.

**AREA DESCRIPTION:** Rifle Gap State Park is situated at the junction of East and West Rifle creeks with a normal storage elevation 5,960 feet above mean sea level. The existing boat ramp is located on the north shore of Rifle Gap Reservoir and has serviced Reservoir users since the late 1960's. The construction project area will not affect any wetlands.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

The applicant has requested water quality certification from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Water Quality Control Division in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. Written comments on water quality certification should be submitted to Mr. Phil Hegeman, Planning and Standards Section, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Water Quality Control Division, 4300 Cherry Creek Drive South, Denver, Colorado, 80222-1530, on or before **September 30, 2002**.

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Water Quality Control Division also reviews each project with respect to the anti-degradation provision in state regulations. For further information regarding anti-degradation provision, please contact Mr. Hegeman at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Water Quality Control Division, telephone (303) 692-3518.

The latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places and its monthly supplements have been reviewed and there are no places either listed or recommended as eligible which would be affected. This activity would not affect any threatened or endangered species or their critical habitat. The District Engineer has made this determination based on information provided by the applicant and on the Corps' preliminary investigation.

Interested parties are invited to submit written comments on or before **September 30, 2002**. Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, consideration of property ownership, and in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

For activities involving 404 discharges, a permit will be denied if the discharge does not comply with the Environmental Protection Agency's Section 404(b) (1) guidelines. Subject to the preceding sentence and any other applicable guidelines or criteria, a permit will be granted unless the District Engineer determines it would be contrary to the public interest.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the

impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above.

Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Written comments on this permit application should be submitted to the District Engineer at the address listed above. Please furnish a copy of your written comments to the attention of Mr. Mark Gilfillan, Colorado/Gunnison Basin Regulatory Office, U.S. Army Engineer District, Sacramento, 402 Rood Avenue, Room 142, Grand Junction, Colorado 81501-2563. For further information, please contact Mr. Gilfillan, at telephone number (970) 243-1199, extension 15, or email [Mark.A.Gilfillan@usace.army.mil](mailto:Mark.A.Gilfillan@usace.army.mil).

Michael J. Conrad, Jr.  
Colonel, Corps of Engineers  
District Engineer

Enclosures: 4 Drawings